

## Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /055 W

----- 002946

R 030625Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0389

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 BANGKOK 1870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, TH

SUBJ: ADVERSE MEDIA RELEASE

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION CDR USASA AHS VA//IACS INFO DCDR  
USASA (PAC) FT SHAFTER HI//IAPDCDR// CDR RR LN DET BANGKOK  
THAI//IAPTLNDB//CDR MACTHAI BANGKOK THAI//MACTPM//AMEMB BKK  
THAI//POMIL//AMCONSUL UDORN THAI DOD SPEC REP BKK THAI  
CDR 13TH ADVON UDORN THAI FM CDR 7TH RRFS RAMASUN STA THAI/  
IAPTCDR// DTG P 020310Z FEB 75 RPTD FOR YOUR INFO:

SUBJECT: ADVERSE MEDIA RELEASE

A. IAPTCDR, SIR, 281605Z JAN 75 (S)

1. (S) REF A WAS THIS STATION'S SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORT REGARDING INCIDENT OF ALLEGED ASSAULT, DAMAGE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND UNLAWFUL DETENTION OF THAI CIVILIAN JITPAKDEE, LUCHAI BY PERS ASSIGNED TO THE PMO 7TH RRFS. THIS REPORT CONTAINS AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF THE INCIDENT AND THE EVENTS RELATED TO THE INCIDENT. AS OF THIS DATE THIS STATION HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY REQUEST FOR INFO FROM ANY MEMBER OF THE THAI PRESS. HOWEVER, SEVERAL NEWS RELEASES HAVE APPEARED IN VARIOUS THAI LANGUAGE NEWS PAPERS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO PRESENT THOSE ARTICLES FOR INFO ONLY. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE INTEREST GENERATED BY THE THAI PRESS IS PRIMARILY RELATED TO THE UNILATERAL MANAGEMENT OF RAMASUN STATION AND NOT TO THE INCIDENT ITSELF.

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2. (U) THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE SIAM VOICE NEWSPAPER,

UDORN THAILAND, 31 JAN 75. QUOTE. "A THAI EMPLOYEE PARKED HIS PRIVATE CAR IN THE WRONG PLACE. TWO GIS USED STRONG FORCE, USING A PISTOL, THREATENED HIM OUT OF HIS CAR. THE THAI HIGHWAY POLICE HAD TO COME TO TALK TO THE GIS BEFORE THEY WOULD RELEASE HIM. ON 28 JAN 75, ABOUT 0800 HRS., MR. LUCHAI CHITPAKDEE, 27 YRS OLD, LIVING AT HOUSE NR 31 ADULYADEJ ROAD, MUANG DISTRICT, UDORN PROVINCE, WENT TO NOTIFY POL LT SOMPONG THAMASART, POLICE OFFICER ON DUTY, UDORN PROVINCIAL POLICE, THAT ON 27 JAN 75 HE WAS DRIVING HIS CAR TO WORK AT RAMASUN STATION BAN NON SUNG, BAN TARD HAMLET, UDORN PROVINCE. HE DROVE HIS CAR TO THE PARKING AREA IN FRONT OF THE MAIN GATE. AT THE TIME TWO GIS, SSGT COOPER AND SGT JOLLY, WALKED UP TO HIM AND TOLD HIM TO MOVE HIS CAR AND PARK AT ANOTHER PLACE, BECAUSE THE PLACE HE WAS IN WAS NOT FOR PARKING. HE TOLD THE GIS THAT HE PARKED HIS CAR THERE EVERYDAY, AND THAT THERE WAS OTHER CARS PARKED THERE. WHEN HE TRIED TO EXPLAIN THE FACTS, THE TWO GIS BECAME ANGRY AND APPROACHED AND TOOK HIM OUT OF HIS CAR BY PUNCHING HIS FACE. ABOUT THAT TIME, CPT FACE, PROVOST MARSHAL, ARRIVED, CARRYING A SHOTGUN, ALONG WITH TWO OTHER GIS. THEY ACCUSED HIM OF OBSTRUCTING THE AUTHORITIES WHO WERE ON DUTY, HE TOLD THEM THAT HE DID NOT OBSTRUCT THE AUTHORITIES WHO WERE ON DUTY, HE TOLD THEM THAT HE DID NOT OBSTRUCT THE AUTHORITIES BECAUSE HE HAD PARKED HIS CAR IN THE RIGHT PLACE. HE BELIEVED THAT SGT COOPER AND SGT JOLLY WERE ANGRY WITH HIM FOR A PERSONAL MATTER AND THAT THEY TRIED TO OBSTRUCT HIM. THEY ARGUED FOR A WHILE AND THEN THE HIGHWAY POLICE ARRIVED, TALKED TO THE GIS, AND THEN HE WAS RELEASED. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE BELIEVED THAT THE GIS, AT RAMASUN STATION HAD DONE FAR MORE THAN WAS NECESSARY AND THEY HAD HARMED HIM. HE WAS MAKING HIS COMPLAINT TO SEE WHO WAS RIGHT AND HE WOULD LIKE THAI GOVERNMENT TO FOLLOWUP THE CASE. AT THE SAME TIME, HE WAS GOING TO REPORT THE INCIDENT TO THE US CONSULATE AT UDORN." UNQUOTE.

3. (U) THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE THAI RATTANA, NEWSPAPER, 1 FEBRUARY 1975. - US. MILITARY PERSONNEL HAVE EXPANDED THEIR INFLUENCE IN THAILAND (THAILAND IS INDEPENDENT COUNTRY AND THAILAND IS THE LAND OF SMILE) AND TRAMPLE THAI PEOPLE WHICH IS AGAINST THAI LAW. US GI HIT THAI PEOPLE AND LOCK HIS HANDS, COMFINE HIM THREE HOURS ON US INSTALLATION.

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WHEN THIS NEWS REACHED THAI POLICE. THEY CAME TO INVESTIGATE AND ASSIST THAI PERSONNEL UNDER THE THAI LAW. BUT THAI POLICE WAS DISPELED BY US PERSONNEL, AND DISAGREE TO SENDING THAT GI WHO'S AGAINST THAI LAW. TO THAI POLICE FOR INVESTIGATION. ALL THAI PERSONNEL WERE STARTING TO BE STRIKED FOR BREAKING THIS CASE. AND NEED THAT GI WHO'S AGAINST THAI LAW. TO THAI POLICE FOR INVESTIGATION. ALL THAI PERSONNEL WERE STARTING TO BE STRIKED FOR BREAKING THIS CASE. AND NEED THAT GI WHO'S AGAINST THAI LAW GET

OUT FROM THAILAND AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ON 28 JAN 75, MR. LU-  
ACHAI CHITPAKDEE, 27 YEARS NOTIFIED TO POLICE OFFICER ON DUTY,  
WHO CAPT SOMPONG THAMPARSAON, UDORN CITY POLICE, UDORN, STATING  
THAT MR LUACHAI WAS ASSAULTED BY THE WILD GI AND TAKING MR.  
LUACHAI CONFINED ON POST. RESULT INVESTIGATING BY THE THAI  
POLICE MR. LAUACHAI STATED THAT ON 27 JAN 75, 1630 HOURS  
MR. LUACHAI WAS DRIVING HIS CAR TO PICK HIS WIFE AT RAMASUN  
STATION, BOM NONSOONG, TAMBOL BAMDARD, UDORN PROVINCE THAILAND.  
MR. LUACHAI WAS PARKING HIS CAR WAITING FOR HIS WIFE. THERE WAS  
A AMERICAN NEGRO, SGT COOPER DROVE HIS JEEP AND PARKED HIS JEEP  
BESIDE MR. LUACHAI'S CAR AND COOPER THEN GOT OUT FROM HIS JEEP  
AND PULLING MR. LUACHAI'S BODY FROM HIS CAR WITHOUT A GOOD REASON.  
BUT MR. LUACHAI TRIED TO GO AWAY FROM THE WILD NEGRO GI. BUT  
MR. LUACHAI WAS TIRED TO RESTLING WITH FOUR US. MILITARY PER-  
SONNEL AND US GI SPOKE TO ALL THAI PERSONNEL ARROUND THERE THAT  
THEY ARE A BIG PERSON AND COULD BE KEPT THAI PERSON DOWN DIDN'T  
LET THAI PERSON MADE A COMPLAINT. AND THEY THEN LOCK MR.  
LUACHAI'S HANDS AND COMFINED MR. LUACHAI ON US INSTALLATION.  
LATER ON CAPT PANYA SATHONPANICH HELPED IN THIS CASE. BUT  
NEGRO'S GI STATING TO THAI POLICE THAT "THIS IS MY POST AND MY  
CASE AND AREA" I CAN DO EVERYTHING ON MY POST. AND I CAN STEP  
OVER ON ANYONE, I DO NOT CARE FOR THAI POLICE. SO THAI POLICE  
AGREED WITH A WILD GI NEGRO UNTIL 2000 HOURS MR. LUACHAI WAS  
RELEASED FROM US GI. MR. LUACHAI WENT TO SEE THE DOCTOR FOR  
TREATMENT OF HIS WOUNDS. SO THAI POLICE NOTIFIED CAPT FACE,  
PROVOST MARSHAL, RAMASUN STATION, REQUESTING THAT ALLEGED OF-  
FENDER BE SENDED TO UDORN CITY POLICE FOR INVESTIGATION.  
BUT CAPT FACE DID NOT AGREE WITH THAI POLICE REQUESTS. SO US  
MILITARY PERSONNEL WAS ONE MANY THINGS AGAINST THAT THAI LAW.  
AND NO RESPECT FOR THAI LAW WHILE THEY HAVE BEEN STAYING IN  
THAILAND. BUT THERE WERE MANY THAI PEOPLE WHO SAW THIS INCIDENT  
AND THEY MIGHT BE WITNESS FOR THIS CASE. AND IF US COMMANDER  
OR PROVOST MARSHAL DO NOT SEND THEM FOR INVESTIGATION IN THIS  
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CASE BY THE THAI LAW AND LET THEM GET OUT FROM THAILAND'LAND  
AREA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /055 W

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R 030625Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0390

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 BANGKOK 1870

4. (U) THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN THAI THAI RATH DAILY NEWS, BANGKOK, THAILAND, 1 FEB 75. QUOTE - "THAI POLICE ASK TO OBTAIN THE CUSTODY OF THE VICTIM, BUT RUDELY TOLD TO EVACUATE, THE VICTIM TAKEN INTO CAMP. THE AMERICAN GI'S ARE SPREADING THEIR BARBARIOUS INFLUENCE OVER THAILAND BY DISHONORING HER PEOPLE AND LAW. A THAI WAS ASSAULTED, HANDCUFFED AND DETAINED IN A CAMP FOR A LENGTH OF THREE HOURS. THE THAI POLICE WHO WERE TRYING TO HELP THE VICTIM WERE SNARLED AT TO MOVE AWAY. THE GI'S WOULD NOT TRANSFER THE CUSTODY OF THE ALLEGED OFFENDER TO THE THAI POLICE FOR AN INQUIRY. A MOB OF THE THAI PEOPLE BEGAN THEIR RESPONSIVE REACTION BY A DEMONSTRATION, DEMANDING THAT THE GI OFFENDER BE DELIVERED TO THE THAI POLICE AND BE BANISHED FROM THAILAND. ON 28 JAN 75 MR. LUECHAI KITPAKDEE, AGED 27 YEARS, SUBMITTED A COMPLAINT TO POLICE 2ND LT. SOMPONG THAMASARN, POLICE OFFICE IN CHARGE OF THE CASE AT UDORN CITY POLICE STATION, STATING THAT HE WAS JOINTLY AND INJURELY ASSAULTED BY THE AMERICAN GI'S AND THAT HE WAS DETAINED WITHOUT LIBERTY IN A CAMP. ACCORDING TO THE POLICE INVESTIGATION REPORT MR. LUECHAI GAVE HIS STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT ON 27 JAN 75 AT 1630 HOURS. HE DROVE HIS PRIVATE CAR TO PICK UP HIS WIFE WHO WORKED AT THE RAMASUN US ARMY CAMP, BAN NON-SOONG, VILLAGE OF BANTARD, DISTRICT OF MUANG, PROVINCE OF UDORN-THANI. WHILE PARKING HIS CAR AND WAITING FOR HIS WIFE, AN AMERICAN NEGRO, SGT COOPER, DROVE UP A JEEP AND MADE A STOP NEAR HIM, GOT OFF HIS VEHICLE AND DRAGGED MR. LUECHAI OUT OF HIS CAR, THE LATTER NOT KNOWING WHY. MR. LUECHAI STRUGGLED SO AS TO FREE HIMSELF WAWAY FROM SUCH A BARBARIOUS ACTION OF THAT AMERICAN NEGRO HOWEVER HE WAS HANDCUFFED BY ANOTHER FOUR AMERICAN GI'S,

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WHO EXPRESSED THEIR INFLUENCE AND MASTERFUL POWER OVER THE THAI PEOPLE, THE OWNER OF THAILAND, AND OVER THE THAI LAW. THEN HE WAS TAKEN INTO THE CAMP AND DETAINED. DURING THE PROGRESS OF THE INCIDENT, SOME THAI PEOPLE WHO WERE WITNESSING THE OCCURENCE RUSHED TO THE NONSOONG POLICE BOX FOR HELP. UPON REACHING THE THAI POLICE, TO RENDER POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE, WERE INFLUENCED ON BY THE GI'S MASTERFUL ACTION, I.E. THEY WERE SNARLED AT TO GO

AWAY. AGAIN, WHEN POLICE CAPTAIN PANYA SORN PANICH WENT UP TO HELP THE VICTIM, THE AMERICAN NEGRO CHALLENGINGLY DECLARED, EVEN WHILE STANDING ON THE LAND OF THAILAND, THAT THE FRONT OF THE CAP HE COULD STAMP ANYBODY WITH HIS FOOT, AND THAI POLICE HAD NO CONCERN WITH IT: AND THE POLICE CAPTAIN HAD TO SUBMIT TO THE ORDER OF THE MASTERFUL SERGEANT. UNTIL 2000 HRS. MR. LUECHAI WAS RELEASED FROM THE CAMP: HE HAD MANY WOUNDS ON HIS BODY DRESSED UP AND THEN SUBMITTED A COMPLAINT TO THE THAI POLICE TO INVESTIGATE INTO THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENSE BY THE GI'S. THE THAI POLICE IN CHARGE THEN CONTACTED WITH CAPTAIN FACE, CHIEF OF THE MP'S AT THE CAMPT, TO DELIVER THE GI'S INVOLVED FOR THE INQUIRY OF THE CASE. HOWEVER, CPT FACE, NOT BEING OF DIFFERENT ATTITUDE FROM THE GI'S WHO ATTACKED MR. LUECHAI, CITED THE PRIVILEGE OVER THE THAI LAW THAT THE STATEMENT BY THE GI'S INVOLVED MAY OR MAY NOT BE GIVEN, IN ADDITION TO HIS MANY OTHER INSULTING EXPRESSION TO THE THAI POLICE. RESULTING FROM THE BARBARIOUS BEHAVIOUR OF THE AMERICAN GI'S OVER THE TERRITORY OF THAILAND THAI LAW, AS STATED, SEVENTY WITNESSES OF THE WITNESSING PEOPLE HAVE GIVEN THEIR STATEMENTS TO THE THAI POLICE. PEOPLE ARE GROUPING UP TOGETHER FOR A DEMONSTRATION AGAINST THE GI'S BEHAVIOUR, FOR HAVING THEM PUNISHED ACCORDING TO THE LAW AND FOR THEIR BANISHMENT FROM THAILAND.

5. (U) THAI RATH DAILY NEWS, BANGKOK, THAILAND, 2 FEBRUARY 1975 - AMERICANS LOOK DOWN UPON THAI LAW - DID NOT SEND GIS INVOLVED IN BEATING THAIS TO POLICE - US CONSUL REFUSED RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CASE - PREPARED TO DEMONSTRATE...AMERICAN SOLDIERS STILL HAVE INFLUENCE OVER THE THAI PEOPLE AND THE COUNTRY OF THAILAND. AFTER ARRESTING A THAI MAN, SECURING HIM WITH HANDCUFFS AND BEATING HIM, THAI POLICE OFFICIALS REQUESTED THAT THE GIS INVOLVED BE SENT TO THE POLICE STATION FOR QUESTIONING, BUT RECEIVED NO COOPERATION. THE US CONSUL FOR NORTHEAST THAILAND REFUSED TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CASE. THAI EMPLOYEES  
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FROM THE POST ARE PLANNING TO HOLD A LARGE DEMONSTRATION. MR. LUCHAI CHITPAKDEE, 27 YEARS OLD, DROVE HIS CAR TO RAMASUN STATION AT 1600 HOURS 27 JANUARY 1975, PARKED IT, AND WAS WAITING FOR HIS WIFE WHO WAS WORKING ON THE POST. AN AMERICAN NEGRO NAMED SGT COOPER APPROACHED HIM DRIVING A JEEP, HANDCUFFED HIM AND BEAT HIM. LUCHAI TRIED TO PROTECT HIMSELF, BUT FOUR MORE GIS CAME TO ASSIST AND BROUGHT HIM INTO THE POST. THEN THE POLICE TRIED TO HELP HIM BUT WERE PREVENTED FROM DOING SO BY THE GIS. THE GIS DECLARED THAT THEY HAD RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FRONT OF THE CAMP AND COULD DO WHAT WAS NECESSARY. AFTER LUCHAI WAS RELEASED, THE NOTIFIED CPT PRACHA, CHIEF OF POLICE FOR UDORN, AND PRACHA SENT A LETTER TO COL JOHN P. BROWN, COMMANDER OF RAMASUN STATION, REQUESTING THAT THE 4 GIS INVOLVED BE SENT TO THE POLICE STATION AT 1000 HOURS, 1 FEB.

NOTHING HAPPENED, AND THE PERSON WHO DELIVERED THE LETTER WAS CHALLENGED BY THE GIS, STATING THAT IT WAS UP TO THEM WHETHER OR NOT THE 4 GIS WERE SENT TO THE POLICE STATION. THIS HAS VERY BAD IMPLICATIONS OF AMERICANS LOOKING DOWN (ON THAI LAW). MR. LUCHAI STILL REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM THEYS CONSUL FOR NORTHEAST THAILAND. BUT THE CONSUL DID NOT TAKE AN INTEREST IN THE CASE, ONLY TELLING LUCHAI TO FORGET WHAT HAD HAPPENED AND THAT HE WOULD TELL THE GIS TO FORGET IT ALSO. THE REPORTER ALSO REPORTED THAT THAI EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED AT THE CAMP OBJECTED TO THE TREATMENT OF LUCHAI AND WERE PREPARING POSTERS FOR DEMONSTRATION IF THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES DID NOT SEND THE 4 GIS TO THE UDORN POLICE STATION FOR INVESTIGATION.

6. (U) THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN THE BANGKOK POST, SUNDAY FEBRUARY 2, 1975. QUOTE - WORKERS AND RESIDENTS LIVING AROUND RAMASUN MILITARY CAMP HAVE ISSUED A PROTEST FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT OUTSIDE THE CAMP WHEN FOUR AMERICAN GIS ALLEGEDLY BEAT UP A MAN WAITING FOR HIS WIFE, POLICE SAID. ACCORDING TO POLICE A LETTER HAS BEEN SENT TO BASE COMMANDER COL JOHN P. BROWN ASKING HIM TO HAND OVER THE FOUR SUSPECTS FOR QUESTIONING BUT NO REPLY HAD BEEN RECEIVED. MR LUECHAI KITPAKEDEE (27) WAS RESORTEDLY WAITING FOR HIS WIFE OUTSIDE THE CAMP GATES LAST MONDAY WHEN A GI, ALLEGED TO BE WARRENT OFFICER COOPER, REPORTEDLY STARTED A FIGHT WITH MR. LUECHAI. THREE OTHER GIS JOINED IN THE FIGHT, POLICE SAID, AND DRAGGED LUECHAI ONTO THE CAMP. LUECHAI WAS RELEASED THREE HOURS LATER AND REPORTED THE INCIDENT TO POLICE.

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7. (U) PORTIONS OF THE ABOVE QUOTES MAY BE DIFFICULT TO READ DUE TO TRANSLATION. WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.  
KINTNER

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## Message Attributes

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